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REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1971

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

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"Look to your health; and if you have it praise God and value it next to a good conscience; for health is the second blessing that we mortals are capable of; a blessing that money cannot buy."

Isaac Walton
"The Angler's Wish"

Borough of Shrewsbury

THE HEALTH AND MARKETS COMMITTEE

Councillor A.H. Edwards (Chairman)

Alderman T. G. Ryder
Councillor B. C. Baldwin
Councillor E. T. B. Butcher
Councillor S. B. Evans
Councillor S. G. Hay

Councillor F. Jones
Councillor T. S. Pritchard
Councillor Miss F. M. Rogers
Councillor D. I. Whittingham

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health
A.C. Mackenzie, M.D.,D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector
#* C. Stanley, Cert. R.S.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors
* J. Innes, Cert. R.S.A.S.
* J.B. Jones, Cert. R.S.I.
* D.C. Joyce, Cert. R.S.I.
* D.A. Eaton, Dip.P.H.I.E.B.

Technical Assistant
L. Woodcock

Chief Clerk
F.R. Wootton

Clerk
Mrs. R.F. Owen

Abattoir Superintendent
* A.G. Hunter, Cert. P.H.I.E.B.

Assistant Meat Inspectors
* J.T. Griffiths, Cert. P.H.I.E.B.

Authorised Meat Inspectors
L.T.C. Ellsmore
M. McDonough
P. McNally
R.F. Milner

PART TIME OFFICERS

Meteorological Observer
A.S. Mumford

Public Analyst
J.G. Sherratt, B.Sc.,F.R.I.C.

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* Qualified Meat Inspector.

# Smoke Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

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HEALTH CENTRE,
MURIVANCE,
SHREWSBURY.

July 1972

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS
OF THE
BOROUGH OF SHREWSBURY

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Borough for the year 1971.

It might be thought that this report, judging from the low incidence of infectious disease and low infant mortality rate, etc., shows that the skills of the Medical Officer of Health and his staff will not be required after 1st April 1974, when the unification of the health service is to take place. Fortunately, it appears that some suitably trained medical manpower and the appropriate staff will be made available to the area authorities and district authorities to continue the work already showing such good dividends.

The Health of the Inhabitants has been measured by such statistics as infant mortality, neo-natal mortality, death rate, birth rate and infectious disease returns, and has also been assessed by the Medical Officer of Health's personal contact with general practitioners, hospital doctors, public health laboratory staff and, above all, the population in general. This method of assessing health has always been of limited value. No measurement of the amount of actual illness being made, except for hospital bed occupation and the returns for sickness obtainable from the appropriate Ministry Department (whatever its current nomenclature). Despite the declining incidence of the infectious notifiable diseases, it must not be thought that notification is now unnecessary unless statistics can be satisfactorily completed by some other method. It is only by constant vigilance that the source of infection, mode of spread, etc., is found and, by the taking of the necessary action to break the chain of infection, that the incidence of infectious illnesses can be kept low — although it is obvious that improved hygiene, better living standards and higher general resistance all help to lessen the damage caused by infectious illnesses.

The epidemilogical procedures used on the infectious diseases may well help towards the control of other diseases, the epidemiology of which is not yet as completely understood as that of diseases such as poliomyelitis or typhoid, possibly because they have not been as completely investigated. Statistical methods already show leads with reference to lung cancer, coronary diseases, peptic ulcerations, leukaemia and asthma, to name a few. Widening of the scope of research by procedures along the lines used for the infectious diseases may be a task of the Community Physician, who with his liaison with hospitals, general practitioners, the personnel health services and public health inspectors, will be well placed to co-ordinate research. With his help the Medical Research Council, the College of General Practitioners' Research Unit and other bodies undertaking research, may work more in series rather than, as seems to happen at present, in parallel.

Part of the role of the Community Physician will probably also be a continuation of the work of the present Medical Officer of Health in the monitering of the environment — a field in which district medical officers have proved their worth on many occasions. This seems to be indicated in the White Paper "Reform of Local Government in England" in the division of functions in Appendix C. The local authority and the Department of the Environment will, it is assumed, continue to collaborate. It seems therefore that the public health staff will be working together after the changeover, but possibly with different focal points as far as the medical personnel are concerned. In this area the changeover to hospitals as the focal point will have been made easier by the already established liaison between hospitals, general practitioners and public health doctors at the Medical Institute at Copthorne Hospital where all three branches of the profession meet on professional and social occasions.

As your Medical Officer I have been fortunate in not having to deal with any serious outbreaks of infectious disease and I have to thank the General Practitioners of the town and surrounding area for their co-operation when any infectious disease has had to be contained.

As Medical Referee to your Crematorium I find that the same co-operation and helpful attitude is evident. The smooth running of the Crematorium can be greatly upset by delays in submitting forms or by inattention to detail. I have to thank my Deputies for their most efficient help and advice, and hospital staff and general practitioners for their help.

I have to thank Mr. C. Stanley, Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. Innes, his deputy, and the Public Health Inspectors, Mr. Woodcock, Technical Assistant, Mr. Hunter, Abattoir Superintendent, Mr. Griffiths, his Deputy, and the staff at the Public Abattoir, and Mr. Wootton and Mrs. Owen in the office, for their efficient help, always cheerfully given.

I have the honour to be
Your obedient servant,

A. C. MACKENZIE

GENERAL STATISTICS, 1971

Rateable Value of the Borough	£3,072,426
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (1p)	£29,400
Area of the Borough (excluding water) in acres	9,317
Population (Registrar General's estimate, middle of 1971)	56,630
Persons per acre calculated on above population	6.07
Inhabited Houses (December 31st, 1971)	19,563

		Male	*Female*		
Live Births	Legitimate	419	408	Total	878
	Illegitimate	31	20		

BIRTH RATE per 1,000 population	15.5
Stillbirths:	
Number	17
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	19.0
Total Live and Stillbirths	895
Deaths	648
DEATH RATE per 1,000 population	11.4
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)	10
INFANT MORTALITY RATES	
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	11.4
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	10.0
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	39.2
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	9.1
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	5.7
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)	24.6
MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortions)	
Number of deaths	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	125
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	Nil

WEATHER CONDITIONS

As in the past forty-two years, daily readings and weather recordings have been continued at the Climatological Station, which is approved by the Air Ministry and is now situated at Monkmoor Sewage Works.

The particulars regarding 1971 may be summarised as follows:

Rainfall — The total rainfall was 25.98 inches (607.2 millimetres), compared with 24.63 inches, 26.55 inches and 27.57 inches in the previous years respectively.

The average rainfall over the last 42 years was 25.98 inches.

Sunshine — The number of hours of bright sunshine recorded was 1,432.7 hours, compared with 1,439.7, 1,328.4 and 1,237.8 hours in the previous years respectively.

The average sunshine over the last 42 years was 1,349.2 hours.

Temperatures — Extremes of temperature during the year were:

Warmest Day (Highest Shade Maximum) July 11th, 81.5°F.
Warmest Night (Highest Shade Minimum) July 3rd, 66.3°F.
Coldest Day (Lowest Shade Maximum) January 4th. 29.0°F.
Coldest Night (Lowest Shade Minimum) January 4th, 19.2°F.

WEATHER STATISTICS – SHREWSBURY 1971

1971 Month	Mean Barometric Pressure in Inches	Air Temperature in Shade ^{o}F					Sunshine in Hours			Rainfall in Millimetres		
		Mean Maximum	Highest Maximum and Date	Mean Minimum	Lowest Minimum and Date	Mean Temperatures	Most Sunshine in One Day	Daily Means	Total Hours	No. of Rainy Days	Greatest Fall in One Day	Total Rainfall
Jan.	29.683	44.3	55.4 on 8th	35.2	19.2 on 4th	39.8	6.0 on 10th	1.23	38.0	21	9.1 on 22nd and 26th	74.7
Feb.	30.137	45.9	52.4 on 20th	34.5	20.5 on 17th	40.2	7.4 on 23rd	2.20	61.8	12	6.5 on 27th	23.8
Mar.	30.215	47.5	54.0 on 29th	36.0	24.8 on 4th	41.8	10.2 on 22nd	2.17	87.3	13	12.3 on 1st	41.0
Apr.	30.011	50.7	63.9 on 20th	37.9	29.5 on 12th	44.3	7.1 on 12th	3.26	98.0	8	24.9 on 23rd	49.5
May	29.946	61.7	68.2 on 17th	43.1	29.0 on 2nd	52.4	12.9 on 4th	7.24	224.6	9	14.0 on 6th	34.4
June	29.972	60.1	70.3 on 2nd	47.2	36.2 on 15th	53.7	12.4 on 2nd	4.55	136.6	20	22.6 on 8th	73.8
July	30.161	72.1	81.5 on 11th	53.2	41.1 on 18th	62.7	14.7 on 17th	7.29	226.2	8	9.8 on 30th	23.4
Aug.	29.934	67.5	72.2 on 6th	52.7	38.8 on 16th	60.1	13.5 on 16th	4.37	135.7	19	28.8 on 9th	100.8
Sept.	30.231	65.9	73.8 on 8th	48.4	39.8 on 13th	57.2	10.6 on 5th	5.36	160.9	11	7.8 on 3rd	24.8
Oct.	30.217	59.6	70.2 on 2nd	45.6	33.1 on 15th	52.6	9.8 on 6th	4.61	143.1	11	21.9 on 13th	64.2
Nov.	30.036	48.1	62.5 on 4th	35.8	23.2 on 20th	42.0	8.3 on 9th	2.97	89.3	16	14.5 on 22nd	67.2
Dec.	30.291	48.2	58.0 on 20th	39.9	28.1 on 8th	44.1	5.9 on 28th	1.00	31.2	13	11.5 on 19th	29.6
									1,432.7			607.2

VITAL STATISTICS
1971 AND PREVIOUS DECADE

Year	Population (estimated) each year by Registrar General	Births		Deaths				
				Under 1 Year of Age		At All Ages		
		Number	Rate per 1,000 Population	Number	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	Number	Rate	
							Crude	Adjusted
1961	49,810	877	17.6	26	30	590	11.8	11.9
1962	50,120	869	17.3	23	26	602	12.0	12.6
1963	50,710	902	17.8	12	13	627	12.3	12.8
1964	51.130	962	18.8	17	18	579	11.3	11.7
1965	51,670	949	18.4	23	24	591	11.4	11.3
1966	52,450	898	17.1	12	13	641	12.2	12.2
1967	53,870	947	17.6	24	25	573	10.7	10.6
1968	53,760	949	17.7	20	21	692	12.9	12.9
1969	54,190	880	16.2	20	23	632	11.7	11.8
1970	54,310	904	16.6	11	12	651	12.0	12.2
1971	56,630	878	15.5	10	11	648	11.4	11.6

POPULATION

The Registrar General's estimate of the home population of Shrewsbury for 1971, including members of the armed forces stationed in the area, was 56,630 compared with 54,310 in the previous year.

BIRTHS

The number of live births in 1971 was 878, compared with 904, 880 and 949 in the previous years respectively.

The crude birth rate was 15.5 per 1,000 population, compared with 16.6, 16.2 and 17.7 in the previous years respectively.

Applying the comparability factor provided by the Registrar General, the adjusted birth rate becomes 14.9.

The 878 births may be analysed as follows:

	Legitimate	Illegitimate	
Male	419	31	878
Female	408	20	

A comparison of the adjusted birth rate between Shrewsbury and the rate for England and Wales is as follows:

	Rate per 1,000 Population Live Births
England and Wales	16.0
Shrewsbury	14.9

Illegitimate Births

There were 51 illegitimate births, compared with 63, 56 and 81 in the previous years respectively.

The illegitimate birth rate was 0.9 per 1,000 population, illegitimate births being a percentage of 6 of the total live births.

Stillbirths

There were 17 stillbirths, compared with 15, 18 and 17 in the previous years respectively.

The stillbirth rate was 0.30 per 1,000 population, the stillbirths being a percentage of 1.9 of the total births.

CAUSES OF AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1971

CAUSES OF DEATH	NET DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS" WHETHER OCCURRING WITHIN OR WITHOUT THE DISTRICT												
	Male	Female	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	1—	5—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	and over
	321	327	8	2	2	5	6	6	13	38	96	197	275
Measles	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Malignant Neoplasm Buccal Cavity, etc.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Malignant Neoplasm Oesophagus	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Malignant Neoplasm Stomach	8	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	5	5
Malignant Neoplasm Intestine	11	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	7	6	8
Malignant Neoplasm Larynx	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	24	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	7	16	2
Malignant Neoplasm Breast	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	2	1
Malignant Neoplasm Uterus	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	3	3
Malignant Neoplasm Prostrate	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Leukaemia	4	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	4	1	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	11	21	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	9	9	10
Diabetes Mellitus	1	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	7
Anaemias	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Mental Disorders	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3
Other Diseases of Nervous System etc.	3	5	—		—	—	2	—	—	1	—	2	3
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Diseases	1	4	—		—	—	—	—	2	2	2	—	2
Hypertensive Disease	6	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	5	5
Ischaemic Heart Disease	94	57	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	25	55	61
Other Forms of Heart Disease	15	18	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	6	10	15
Cerebrovascular Disease	30	67	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	11	31	51
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	10	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	7	14
Influenza	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—
Pneumonia	12	35	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	9	34
Bronchitis and Emphysem.	26	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	9	13
Asthma	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	6	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	4	1
Peptic Ulcer	3	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	7
Appendicitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Cirrhosis of Liver	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	1	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Hypeplasia of Prostrate	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4
Congenital Anomalies	4	1	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Symptoms and Ill-Defined Conditions	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Motor Vehicle Accidents	9	1	—	—	—	1	3	1	2	—	1	2	—
All Other Accidents	3	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	5
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	1
All Other External Causes	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—

DEATHS

The number of deaths during the year was 648, compared with 651, 632 and 692 in the previous years respectively.

Of the 648 deaths, 321 were males and 327 females.

The crude death rate was 11.4 and, by applying the comparability factor provided by the Registrar General, the adjusted rate was 11.6.

A comparison between the adjusted death rate of Shrewsbury and the rate for England and Wales is as follows:

	Death rate per 1,000 population
England and Wales	11.6
Shrewsbury	11.6

Of the 648 deaths, 472 persons were 65 years of age or over, i.e. 72.8%.

If the main causes of death are grouped, it will be seen that 545 of the 648 deaths can be allocated to four groups as follows:

1.	Heart disease	204
2.	Other diseases of the Circulatory System, including Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	121
3.	Cancer (including Leukaemia)	132
4.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia and other Respiratory Disease, including Pulmonary Tuberculosis	88

There were 5 deaths from suicide and self-inflicted injuries and 10 from motor vehicle accidents.

Of the child population, there were 10 infant deaths (under one year of age) and 7 deaths of children one to fourteen years of age, this age group showing a greatly decreased mortality rate over the last 60 years. The causes of death show that even better figures should be obtainable in a few years when efforts to avoid or treat congenital malformations and to treat leukaemia, asthma and other up to now serious illnesses become more successful.

In the ''working'' age group (15 to 65 years) there were 62 deaths attributed to cardiovascular or cerebrovascular disease, 6 to bronchitis and 13 lung cancer cases. How many of these were accelerated by or even caused by cigarette smoking? Research indicates that cigarette smoking increases the liability to contract these diseases, but those who smoke have at least been warned! There were also 40 deaths in this age group from various types of neoplasm. The 6 chronic rheumatic heart disease deaths were in the 35 to 65 age group and it may be that the now very infrequent occurrence of this disease plus improved treatment will in the next 30 years make such deaths during a man's or woman's working life a rarity.

An interesting exercise recently undertaken in assessing the needs of the elderly in the population in sickness and in their ordinary day-to-day activities showed that, at present, the elderly seem to have a one-third chance of dying at home and a two-thirds chance of dying in a hospital or welfare home and it showed also the large proportion of women compared to men in the over 75 age group.

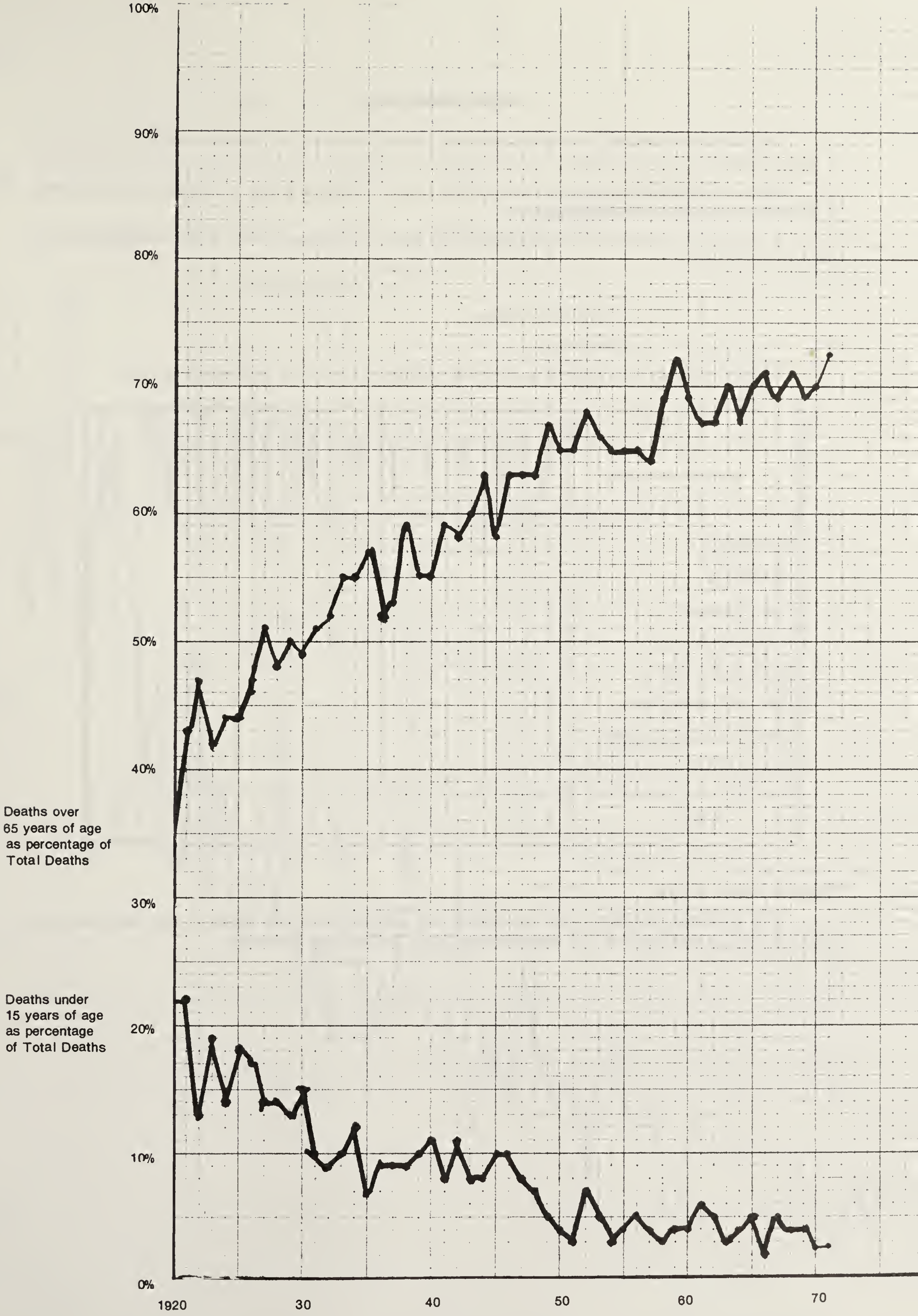
Table A below shows an analysis of the 474 deaths over 64 by age and sex and table B the separation into deaths at their own or relatives homes, in hospital, or other 'institutional' accommodation.

TABLE A

	Age 65-70	Age 70-75	Age 75-80	Age 80 +	
Male	55 (24%)	80 (35%)	45 (20%)	47 (21%)	227 (100%)
Female	34 (14%)	42 (17%)	56 (22%)	115 (47%)	247 (100%)

TABLE B

DEATH IN:	Age 65-70	Age 70-75	Age 75-80	Age 80+
Male				
Home	16	24	10	14
Hospital	39	52	35	32
Institution, etc.	–	4	–	1
Female				
Home	5	15	23	35
Hospital	29	27	33	75
Institution, etc.	–	–	–	5


100%
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
Deaths over
65 years of age
as percentage of
Total Deaths
30%
Deaths under
15 years of age
as percentage
of Total Deaths
20%
10%
0%
1920
30
40
50
60
70

INFANT MORTALITY

The number of deaths in infants under one year of age was 10, compared with 11, 20 and 20 in the previous years respectively.

The Infantile Mortality Rate was accordingly 11 per 1,000 live births, compared with 12, 23 and 21 in the previous years respectively.

A comparison between the Infantile Mortality Rate of Shrewsbury and the rate for England and Wales is as follows:

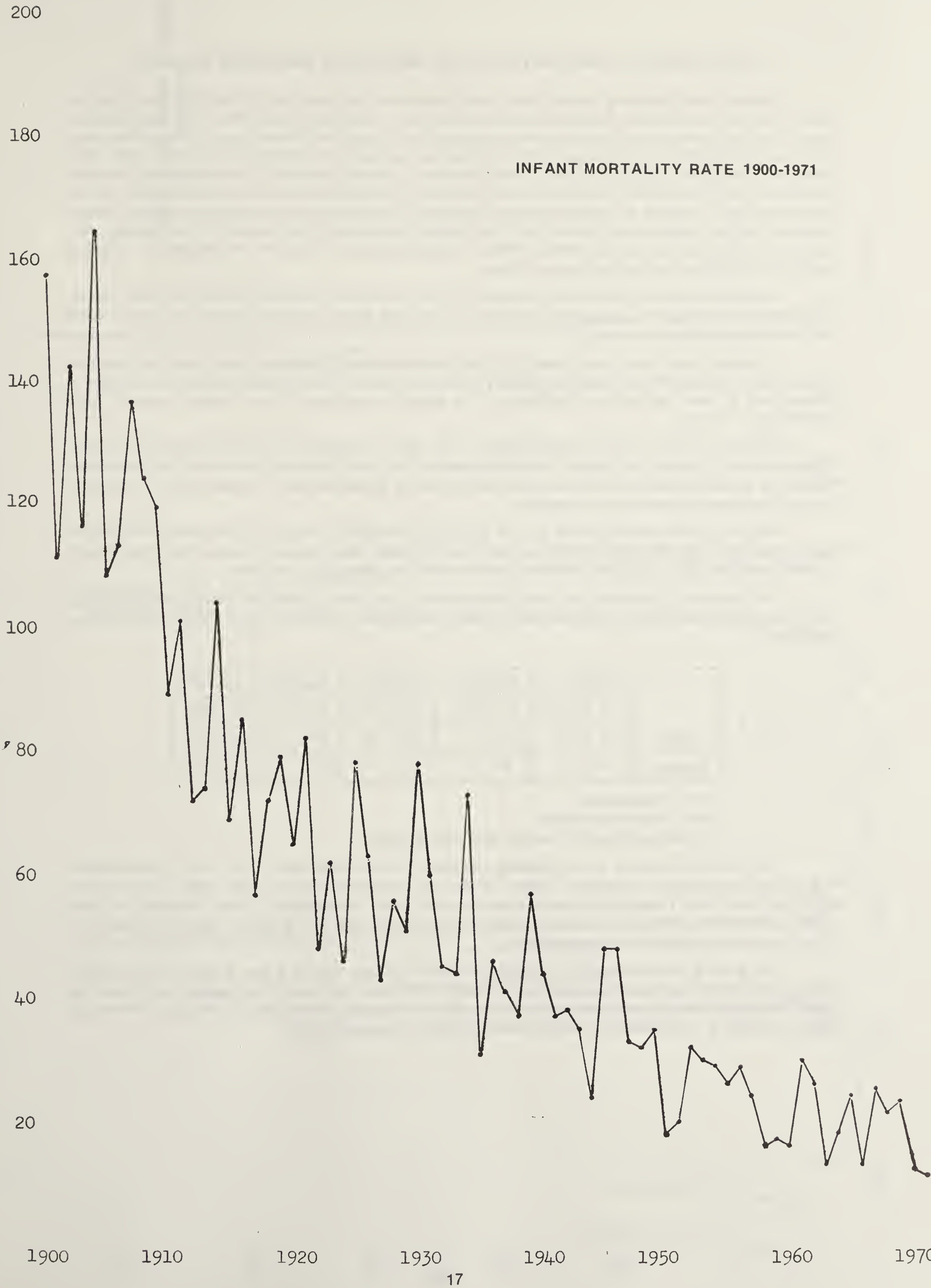
	Per 1,000 live births
England and Wales	18.0
Shrewsbury	11.4

These deaths are analysed by causes and duration of life in the accompanying table.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Under 24 hours	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1 month and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Prematurity	1	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	1
Pneumonia	–	–	–	1	–	1	–	–	–	–	1
Heart Disease	–	–	–	1	–	1	1	1	–	–	3
Atelectasis	1	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	1
Cerebral Damage	–	–	–	1	–	1	–	–	–	–	1
Subdural Haemorrhage	1	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	1
Respiratory Insufficiency	1	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	1
Congenital Malformations	1	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	1
Total	5	–	–	3	–	8	1	1	–	–	10

Perinatal Mortality Rate

The perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under one week of age combined per 1,000 live and stillbirths) was 24.6 compared with 22.0 for England and Wales.



INFANT MORTALITY RATE 1900-1971

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Measles and Whooping Cough have again taken the top positions in the infectious disease table. The high incidence of measles is disappointing, but experience shows that a few years always pass before the effects of an immunisation campaign really show. All three cases of Food Poisoning were due to Salmonella Typhimurium and no secondary spread was evident in any case. Two other Salmonella infections (Agona and Hada) were isolated in healthy persons in investigations for other conditions. The Paratyphoid notification was a schoolboy who appeared to have been infected abroad. On notification a total of 17 persons were investigated, including all his contacts at school, family contacts, holiday contacts and school staff. His brother was found to be a carrier of Paratyphoid "B" and one healthy carrier of Salmonella "Hada" (see above) was isolated. No secondary infection appears to have been caused by case or carrier.

Towards the end of the year an outbreak of Food Poisoning involving several Borough inhabitants was investigated in co-operation with the neighbouring Rural District Council, the source being just outside the Borough boundary.

I suspect that many more cases of Food Poisoning and Dysentery occur than are notified. These cases are usually mild and the majority of those affected recover rapidly thanks to the type of disease and to their own natural resistance. The general practitioner is not usually involved until afterwards – if at all.

During the year several holidaymakers and others returning from abroad were kept under surveillance for Cholera (56 cases). Although some of the cases were not at all well on return from holiday no cholera case or carrier was discovered. One of those who were ill was found to be suffering from Salmonella Typhi-murium infection.

Mention should also be made in this section of the Annual Report of the work of the Public Health Inspector, the Borough Cleansing staff, stall holders, shop keepers, caterers and their staffs in their combined efforts towards providing safe food for the Borough's populace.

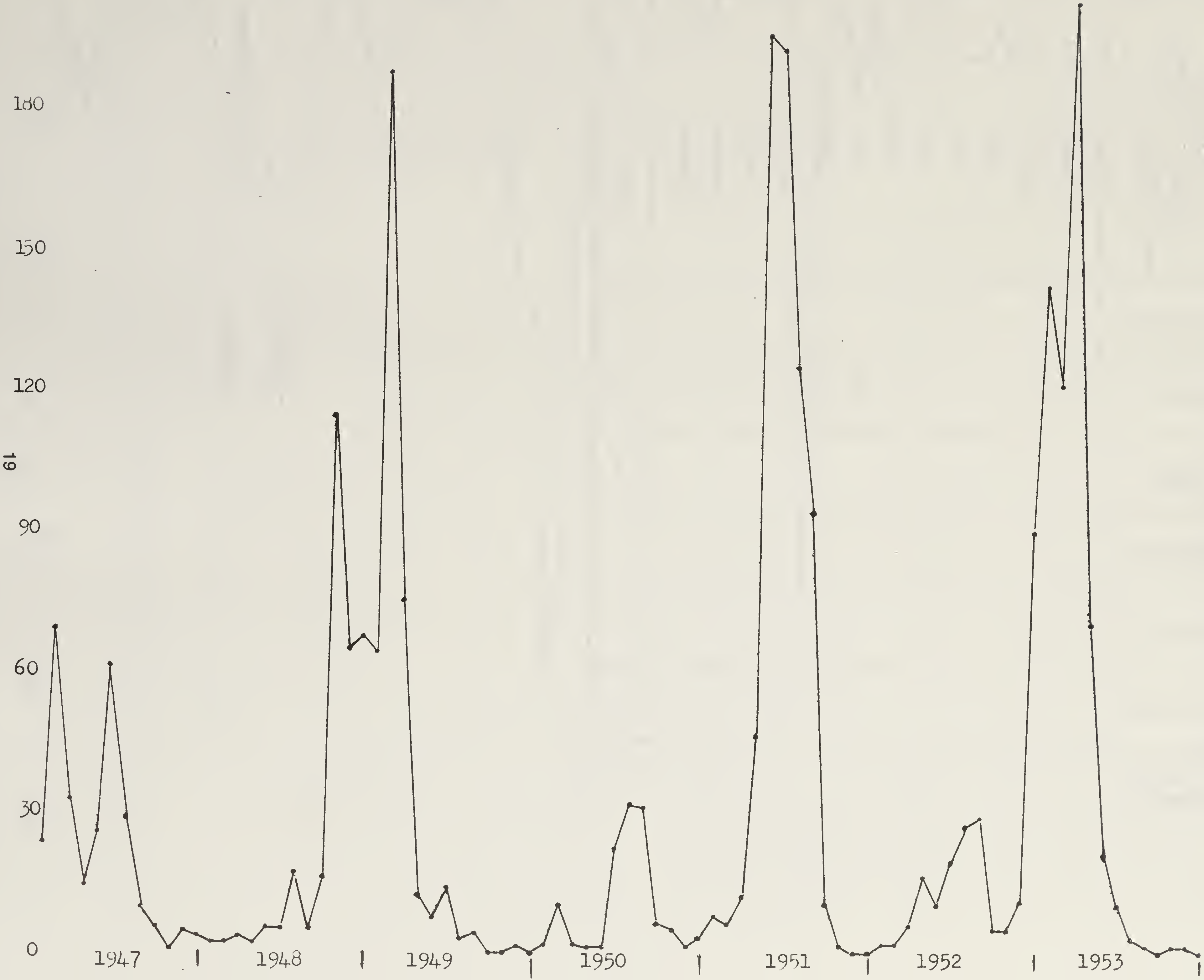
The decline in the death rate from Tuberculosis in all forms in the last twenty years has been more pronounced than that for notifications of newly discovered infections, as is shown in the following table.

	1947-51		1952-56		1957-61		1962-66		1967-71	
	R	NR	R	NR	R	NR	R	NR	R	NR
Cases	24	9	21	7	15	4	9	3	6	2
Deaths	11	2	7	1	2	–	2	–	–	–

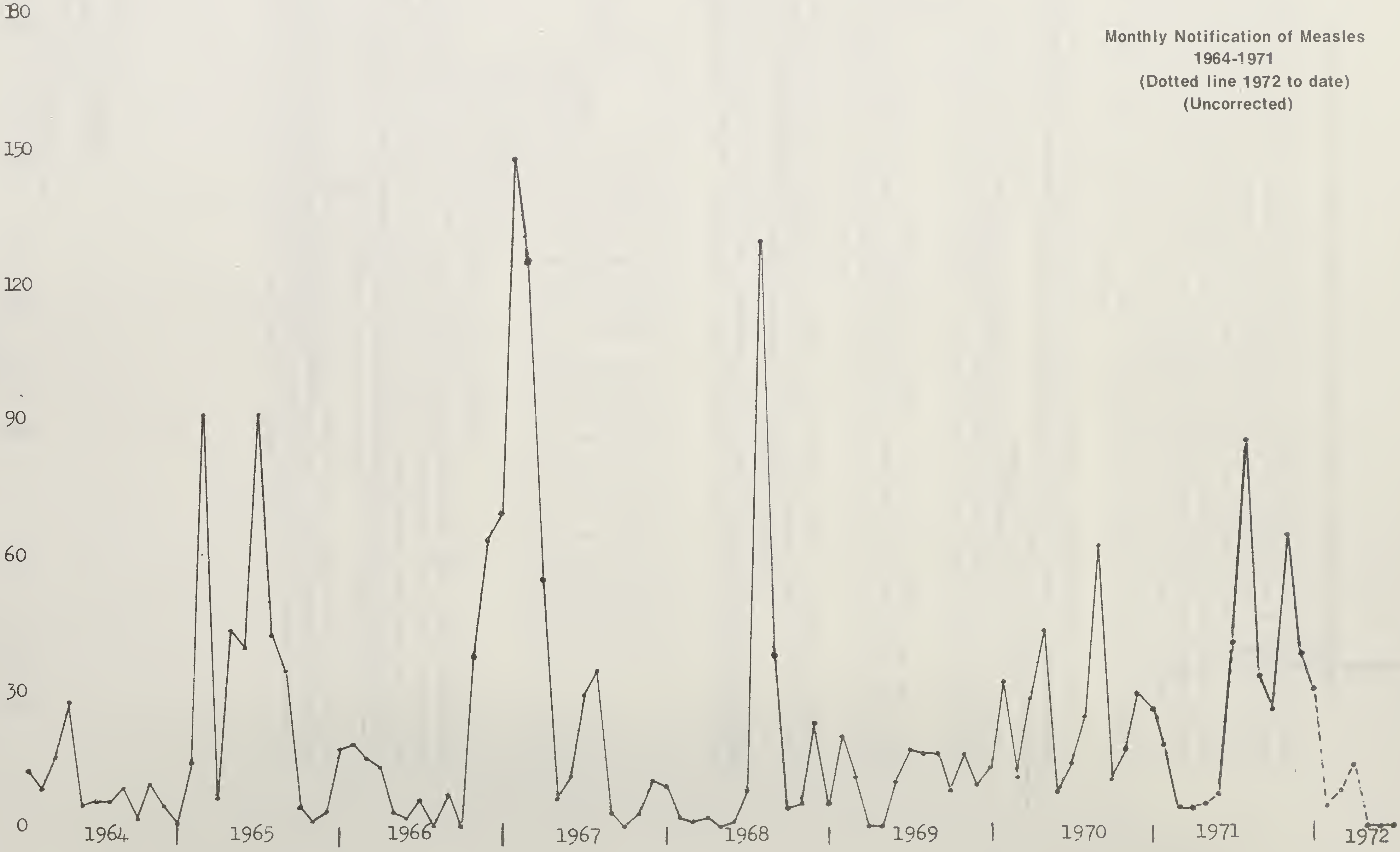
R – Respiratory
NR – Non-Respiratory
(Average figures to nearest unit over 5 years)

Two significant dates in the campaign against Tuberculosis were 1956 – the commencement of a scheme to immunise susceptible school children by BCG innoculation – and, 1957 – the declaration of the area as a Tuberculosis eradication area for cattle. Tuberculosis is not now seen in cattle coming to the Borough Abattoir, whereas in 1951 (twenty years ago) 18% of cattle, excluding cows, and 47% of cows were affected with tuberculosis.

The primary bovine disease of brucellosis which affects man to a less extent than did tuberculosis, but which has recently become an 'industrial' illness, will shortly be tackled with much the same measures as was bovine tuberculosis. Although not notifiable Brucellosis is relatively uncommon, and elimination of the disease in cattle should control the spread to man.



Monthly Notification of Measles
1947-1953



Monthly Notification of Measles
1964-1971
(Dotted line 1972 to date)
(Uncorrected)

MONTHLY NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1971

(EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS)

MONTH	SCARLET FEVER	MEASLES	WHOOPING COUGH	PARATYPHOID FEVER	DYSENTERY	FOOD POISONING	ACUTE ENCEPHALITIS (Post Infectious)
January	1	18	1	—	—	—	—
February	—	4	4	—	—	—	1
March	—	4	7	—	—	—	—
April	—	5	6	—	—	—	—
May	—	7	1	—	1	—	—
June	—	40	7	—	—	—	—
July	1	85	4	—	—	—	—
August	—	33	1	—	1	—	—
September	1	26	2	—	1	2	—
October	1	64	1	1	—	1	—
November	—	38	1	—	—	—	—
December	—	30	1	—	—	—	—
Totals	4	354	36	1	3	3	1

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1971

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	Number of Cases Notified											Total Cases removed to Hospital
	At all ages	At Ages—Years									Age Unknown	
		Under 1	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 & upwards		
Measles	354	18	51	113	159	6	1	–	–	–	6	–
Dysentery	3	–	–	2	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	1
Scarlet Fever	4	–	–	1	3	-	–	–	–	–	–	–
Whooping Cough	36	4	5	6	19	1	–	–	1	–	–	4
Infective Jaundice	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Diphtheria	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Tetanus	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Acute Meningitis	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Acute Encephalitis:-												
Infective	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Post Infectious	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Acute Poliomyelitis:-												
Paralytic	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Non-Paralytic	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Leptospirosis	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Paratyphoid Fever	1	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	1
Typhoid Fever	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Food Poisoning	3	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	1	–	–	1
Malaria	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Plague	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Cholera	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Anthrax	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Smallpox	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Typhus Fever	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Relapsing Fever	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Yellow Fever	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
TOTALS	402	22	56	122	181	8	4	1	2	–	6	7

TUBERCULOSIS

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
1 year	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2–4 years	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
5–9 "	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
10–14 "	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
15–19 "	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
20–24 "	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
25–34 "	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
35–44 "	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
45–54 "	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
55–64 "	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
65–74 "	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
75 and over	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
TOTALS	5	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

The Phthisis (Respiratory or Pulmonary Tuberculosis) death rate for the year was as in 1970, i.e. Nil per 1,000 population.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

Removal to suitable premises of Persons in need of care and attention

It was not found necessary to make any application for compulsory removal to hospital.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

The Engineer to the West Shropshire Water Board, Mr. J. H. Sabido, has kindly supplied the following information on the water supply of the town, accompanied by statistics of laboratory examinations carried out at Shelton Waterworks.

"The Board's Shelton Headworks have supplied the whole of the Borough's requirements, free of all restrictions, during the year 1971. The average daily quantity supplied amounted to 3,050,180 gallons, which was equivalent to 53.18 gallons per head per day, and the maximum daily quantity supplied was 4,603,000 on 10th July 1971.

Routine chemical and bacteriological analyses were carried out at Shelton on the water before and after treatment. The maximum and minimum results obtained from these examinations are given in the accompanying table.

During the year the practice of making routine chemical and bacteriological examinations of drinking water samples drawn from household supplies was maintained, 259 chemical and 100 bacteriological examinations were made from such samples, and all were found to be sterile. The water supply in general has consistently maintained the very high standard of purity demanded for water supplies in this country.

The inauguration of the large scale reconstruction works at the Shelton Headworks authorised under the Shrewsbury Water Order, 1962, took place during the year under review, and marked the culmination of many years work. The modernised and new works, built to form a fully automated modern Treatment Works, are essential to cater for the foreseeable housing and industrial development in the town and the surrounding area. The whole of the Scheme and the Works, which has been designed and constructed under the direction of the Engineer, had to be very carefully programmed. A portion of the new works was commissioned in advance of the whole scheme, and temporary expedients were taken in order that the appropriate sections of the Old Works could be taken out of supply to enable these to be modernised and reconstructed, and then incorporated in the final scheme. It is satisfactory to note that at no time during these operations has the supply to the town been curtailed.

The most important links in the trunk ring main around the Borough were carried out prior to the formation of the Board, and during this year, work on the final link, which is known as the Western Trunk Main, was commenced by the Board's direct labour unit. This section of the ring main will greatly assist the Harlescott area to the north of the Borough, and help to maintain a balance and a more even distribution of supply in the area as a whole.

A number of mains extensions and renewals were carried out comprising:

	1,440 yards	3" diameter
	2,192 yards	4" diameter
	1,003 yards	6" diameter
	610 yards	20" diameter
	3,640 yards	22" diameter
total	8,885 yards	— i.e. approximately 5.08 miles.

The following number of communication pipes were connected to the Borough mains:

	308 No.	½" diameter
	59 No.	¾" diameter
	10 No.	1" diameter
	6 No.	above 1" diameter
total	383 No.	

Monitoring for the estimation of radio activity in the air, river water and final water, was continued during the year. The results obtained to date are within the accepted standards as laid down by the National Research Council."

Fluoride

The average fluoride content of the town's treated water is estimated to be 0.03 mg/1.

The position as regards dwellinghouses in the town as at the end of 1971 is as follows:

Total number of houses	19,563
Total number of houses with Corporation piped water ...	19,544
Total number of houses without a Corporation piped water supply	19

RESULTS OF CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS, 1971

	ITEM	*RIVER WATER UNTREATED*		*WATER AFTER FILTRATION AND STERILISATION*	
		Maximum	*Minimum*	*Maximum*	*Minimum*
Bacteriological	Probable number of coliform Aerogenes Organisms per 100 mls.	18 +	18 +	Nil	Nil
	Probable Number of Bact. Coli Type 1 per 100 mls.	18 +	18 +	Nil	Nil
	Colony count per ml. at 37° C.	–	–	Nil	Nil
Chemical Analysis expressed in Milligrams per Litre	Colour (Hazenscale)	85	6	Nil	Nil
	pH	8.92	7.10	9.00	7.00
	Alkalinity ($CaCO_3$)	130	21	116	31
	Chloride (Cl)	48	12	50	18
	Free and Saline Amonia	1.20	0.01	0.12	Nil
	Oxygen absorbed (3 hrs. at 37°C.)	9.80	0.76	1.16	Nil
	Permanent Hardness $CaCO_3$)	48	Nil	84	23
	Total Hardness ($CaCO_3$)	166	35	175	73
	Free Residual Chlorine	–	–	0.10	Nil
	Total Residual Chlorine	–	–	0.20	0.05

PUBLIC BATHS

Satisfactory sampling of the three pools continued, and during the year out of 28 samples only 2 were considered to be unsatisfactory. In both cases tests for life saving, which entails swimming in pyjamas in the pool, had recently been completed.

Each side of the Baths now has a "minute-man" type of artificial respirator available for emergency, and the staff have been instructed on safety and rescue procedures, with the addition of lectures from a consultant anaesthetist on the techniques involved. During the year one child had to be resuscitated; the apparatus proving its worth in this emergency. However, as the apparatus had to be brought from the other side of the building and was in use for over one half hour, and was therefore not available had another emergency occurred, it was decided that one should be available for each pool and a second apparatus was purchased.

DRAINAGE, CLOSET ACCOMMODATION, SEWERAGE AND PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Borough Surveyor, Mr. R. W. Gibb, has kindly supplied the following information:

"**Main Drainage –**

Number of existing houses connected to sewers	38
Number of new houses erected without connection to main sewerage system ...	Nil

Extensions and Alterations –

(a) Construction of sewer and pumping station – Underdale Road,

(b) Duplication of inverted syphon under river which forms part of Northern Outfall Sewer, and

(c) Construction of main surface water sewer in New Park Road.

The present position as regards sewage disposal in the town as estimated during 1971 is as follows:

Total number of houses in the Borough	19,563
Number of houses connected to Corporation Sewers	19,365
Number of houses connected to independent sewage disposal works, e.g. cesspits, septic tanks	146
Number of houses relying on earth, pail or chemical closets	52

Refuse Collection and Disposal –

A "paper sack" collection scheme was commenced for a trial period on 16th September 1971 at Harlescott for one day per week only. The Council later decided to implement a "paper sack" scheme for the whole of the Borough and a collection for each working day was commenced at Harlescott on 6th December 1971.

The container service introduced in 1970 at six amenity sites where householders are encouraged to deposit garden rubbish, bulky articles and other refuse not usually taken by the refuse collectors was again made available, as were similar facilities at the Nobold Lane Refuse Tip. The Nobold Lane Tip will continue in use until sometime in 1972 and discussions have already commenced with Atcham R.D.C. regarding a new site."

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. C. Stanley, reports as follows:

Complaints received during the Year

There were 563 complaints and these were investigated in accordance with the following analysis:

NATURE OF COMPLAINT	NUMBER RECEIVED
Housing Defects	47
Choked and Defective Drains and Sewers	32
Accumulations of Offensive Matter	19
Relative to Unsound Food	32
Verminous Premises:	
(a) Bugs	3
(b) Rats and Mice Infestations	347
(c) Insects	23
Keeping of Animals and Poultry	1
Unsatisfactory Milk Supplies	2
Clean Air Act	5
Noise Abatement Act, 1960	20
Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960	5
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	–
Miscellaneous	27
TOTAL	563

Premises Inspected

The following summary indicates the number of inspections of various premises carried out during the year:

NATURE OF INSPECTION	*Number of visits*	*Unsatisfactory conditions remedied by verbal cautions*
Dwellinghouses, under the Public Health Act	356	3
Business,premises under the Public Health Act	85	1
Dwellinghouses under the Housing Acts	1,148	2
Houses in Multiple Occupation	186	–
Caravans. Control of Development Act, 1960	83	1
Factories Act, 1961		
Factories with mechanical power	150	5
Factories without mechanical power	35	–
Works of building construction	23	–
Outworkers' premises	1	–
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963		
Registered Premises	921	24
Non-Registered Premises	68	–
Shops Acts 1950 to 1965	37	–
Food and Drugs Act/Food Hygiene Regs		
Bakehouses	60	7
Butchers' Shops	216	39
Hospital Kitchens	17	–
Restaurant Kitchens	523	72
School Kitchens	86	2
Staff Canteens	54	1
Licensed premises	247	11
Market Stalls	234	36
Food Vehicles	126	6
Other Premises	744	93
Section 16 Premises–Sausage Manufacturers	59	–
Fish Frying Premises	72	2
Ice Cream Premises	96	4
Unfit meat and other foods	243	–
Sampling of Food and Drugs (other than milk)	74	–
Milk Sampling–Bacteriological	64	–
Chemical	13	–
Food Poisoning Investigations	22	–
Clean Air Acts	357	12
Noise Abatement Act, 1960	181	5
Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957	–	–
Pet Animals Act, 1951	2	–
Drainage–Inspection and Examination	353	6
Public Sewers	155	–
Septic Tanks and Cesspools	63	–
Watercourses and Ditches	39	–
Land and Tips	142	–
Water Supplies	97	–
Swimming Bath Water Sampling	58	–
Offensive Trades Premises	3	–
Verminous Premises		
Rats and Mice	423	1
Insects, etc.	532	7
Infectious Disease	83	–
National Assistance Acts	1	–
Agriculture Safety, Health and Welfare Regs.	3	–
Miscellaneous	643	–
TOTAL	9,178	340

Notices Served

Administrative action was taken during the year to secure abatement of nuisances and to enforce the appropriate statutory enactments as follows:

SUBJECT OF NOTICE	Public Health Acts	Housing Acts	Offices, etc. Act	Food and Drugs Act, 1955	Factories Act, 1961	Shops Act
Number of Informal Notices served	15	–	132	55	7	1
Number of Informal Notices complied with	17	–	104	33	4	2
Number of Informal Notices Outstanding (against Premises)	14	–	138	71	12	–
Number of Statutory Notices served	11	18	–	–	–	–
Number of Statutory Notices complied with	9	39	–	–	–	–
Number of Statutory Notices Outstanding (against Premises)	12	14	–	–	–	–
Number of Prosecutions ...	–	–	1	1	–	–

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Table A—Registrations and General Inspections

(1) Class of Premises	(2) Number of premises registered during the year	(3) Total number of registered premises at end of year	(4) Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection
Offices	28	310	39
Retail Shops	24	413	271
Wholesale Shops, warehouses	1	19	4
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens ...	2	83	29
Fuel storage depots ...	—	—	—
Totals	55	825	343

Table B—Number of Visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises

Total 932

Table C—Analysis of Persons Employed in Registered Premises by Workplace

Class of Workplace (2)	Number of persons employed (2)
Offices	4,013
Retail Shops	2,663
Wholesale departments, warehouses	245
Catering establishments open to the public	697
Canteens	51
Fuel storage depots	—
Total	7,669
Total Males	3,361
Total Females	4,308

ANALYSIS OF UNSATISFACTORY CONDITIONS

Contravention	1971		1964–1971			
	Found	Remedied	Found	Remedied	Withdrawn	Outstanding
Lack of Cleanliness	140	66	1,316	951	224	141
Overcrowding	5	1	71	56	9	6
Absence of Thermometer or Heating Facilities	31	34	641	510	97	34
Inadequate Ventilation	61	25	564	437	66	61
Unsatisfactory Lighting	144	102	833	581	96	156
Inadequate or Unsatisfactory Sanitary Conveniences	122	77	1,489	1,179	208	102
Inadequate or Unsatisfactory Washing Facilities	76	62	1,221	1,023	136	62
Absence of Drinking Water	–	–	43	35	6	2
Inadequate Clothing Accommodation	4	10	221	198	23	–
Unsuitable or Inadequate Seating Facilities	12	3	54	35	5	14
Seats for Sedentary Work	9	3	38	26	4	8
Inadequate Eating Facilities	1	2	24	18	5	1
Defective Floors and Staircases	125	56	1,653	1,321	239	93
Inadequately Fenced Machinery	3	11	79	65	9	5
Hoists and Lifts Regulations	6	7	51	31	11	9
Noise and Vibrations	–	–	3	3	–	–
Dangerous Conditions and Practices	172	41	769	529	106	134
Prohibition of Heavy Work	–	–	1	1	–	–
Absence of Adequate First Aid Facilities	37	34	480	396	60	24
Failure to Notify Fact of Employment of Persons	2	8	72	44	12	16
Absence of Abstract of Act	22	31	511	440	64	7

NOTICES

	1971	1964–1971
Number Served...	132	1,402
Number Completed	92	1,123
Number Withdrawn *	12	141
Number Outstanding	28	138

(* i.e. Act ceased to apply)

ACCIDENTS

There were nineteen notifiable accidents reported in Shrewsbury during the year. (An accident becomes notifiable if an employee is fatally injured, or is disabled from doing his usual work for more than three days).

The types of accident reported were as follows:

Cause of Accident	Number of Cases
Powerdriven machinery or relevant part in motion	1
Vehicle in motion not moved by power	1
Use of a hand tool	2
Fall on or from fixed stairs	1
Other falls from one level to another	2
Falls on the same level	3
Stepping on or stiking against object or person	2
Handling Goods	4
Struck by falling object	1
Unspecified in official code	2

One of the year's features was an experiment carried out with the co-operation of a local firm employing approximately one hundred persons. It consisted of a series of three film shows, followed by question and answer. These films, mainly with the home-safety theme, carried the message. Possibly, a few films more appropriate for the office and shop worker could be produced.

The total attendance was 184 and, after the last session, the employees were asked if they would like to form a safety group. The idea was that volunteers would meet once a week and discuss safety matters, subsequently to inform the management of any potential dangers and to make their fellow-workers aware of the hazards arising from the misuse of equipment, etc.

Ten persons expressed a desire to be included in the group. Two meetings were held, when the safety provisions of the Act were discussed. The management very kindly permitted a member of my staff to attend these meetings.

We extend our thanks to the management concerned and to the County Medical Officer of Health for allowing his Health Education Officer to exhibit the films.

There is no doubt that careful study of the Act and subsequent compliance with its provisions would reduce accidents considerably. However, humans are unpredictable and risk-taking appears to be part of man's normal behaviour. There is always the inclination to take short-cuts, to make work easier or to "improve" things.

Food Slicing Machines

The Department of the Environment's leaflet (SHW.14) was issued where applicable and advice given at the same time. It is pleasing to record that instructions were heeded and no accidents through the use of such machines were reported during 1971.

Legislation

Existing legislation leaves room for improvement — particularly in the following respects:

Dangerous machinery is sold without the necessity to provide a securely fitted guard as an integral part of the equipment.

Innumerable accidents are caused by people falling over portable heating apparatus. Portable heating appliances should be prohibited, for we find electrical apparatus, in particular, badly maintained in so many instances.

Electrical installations should be tested, at intervals of not more than five years, by a competent electrician. Faults should be corrected and, ultimately, a certificate of fitness should be given.

It is surprising to find that only floors, stairs, steps, passages and gangways need to be of sound construction and properly maintained. This provision should be amended to cover all premises, furniture, furnishings, fixtures and fittings.

The Act has been in operation for eight years, approximately. Could not consideration be given to the issue of statutory standards for lighting and ventilation?

Persons claiming exemption under the provisions of Sections 2 and 3 should be obliged to provide a signed statement explaining the situation or complete a "Nil" O.S.R.1. This would be of considerable assistance to those administering the Act.

Prosecutions

Unfortunately, it was necessary to take legal action in one instance during the year.

There were fourteen informations laid before the Magistrates consisting of:

Failure to maintain room temperature — one information under Section 6.
Failure to maintain a first aid box to the required standard — one information under Section 24.
Failure to provide suitable and sufficient lighting — one information under Section 8.
Failure to keep stairs and steps free from obstruction — six informations under Section 16.
Failure to provide handrails to staircases — five informations under Section 16.

The defendants pleaded guilty and were fined £4 on each of the fourteen informations laid, plus £10 costs, bringing the total penalty to £66.

There were no complaints or summary applications under the provisions of Section 22, and no interim orders were granted.

There were no exemptions issued during the year, and no exemptions in operation during the year.

Once again, I express thanks to the members of my staff for their hard work and co-operation.

SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED AT DWELLINGHOUSES AS A RESULT OF STATUTORY AND INFORMAL NOTICES ISSUED

(Number of premises, 10)

	Number Complied with
Defective drains	—
Choked drains	—
Insufficient closet accommodation	—
Absence of proper sink	—
Defective water closets	—
Defective gullies	—
Defective sink	2
Defective sink waste pipes	—
Defective W.C. cisterns and fittings	1
Burst water pipes	—
Insufficient water supply	—
Defective soil pipes	—
Dampness arising from:-	
Defective roofs	5
Defective eaves-gutters	1
Defective down-spouts	—
Defective brickwork and pointing	—
Defective damp-proof courses	—
Defective yard paving	—
Defective chimney flues	—
Galvanized metal dustbins provided	1
Defective window-frames and sash-cords	1
Defective floors	—
Defective stairs	—
Defective plaster to walls and ceilings	1
Defective doors	1
Defective fireplaces and cooking ranges	1
Defective wash-boilers	—
Defective and dangerous chimney stacks	—
Defective and bulging external walls	—
Defective and bulging party walls	—
Filthy condition of premises	—
Accumulation of manure or offensive matter	1
Miscellaneous	1

Destruction of Rats and Mice

At the end of the year the number of premises under contract with the Corporation for disinfestation was as follows:

Business premises . . . 54

Rat infestations at private dwellinghouses are cleared free-of-charge and advice is readily available to occupiers when mice infestations are reported in domestic premises.

The Rodent Operatives made 2,373 visits to premises in the course of their duties during the year. (It was found necessary to engage the services of an additional part-time operative towards the end of the year.)

FACTORY ACT, 1961

The following statistics, required under the provisions of this legislation, are appended:-

Part I of the Act

1. **Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	35	–	–
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	226	150	7	–
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	23	23	–	–
TOTAL	252	208	7	–

2. Cases in which **Defects** were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	–	–	1	–	–
Overcrowding (S.2)	–	–	1	–	–
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	–	–	–	–	–
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	–	–	1	–	–
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	–	–	–	–	–
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	–	1	–
(b) Unsuitable or defective	6	3	–	–	–
(c) Not separate for sexes	–	1	–	–	–
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	–	–	–	–	–
TOTAL	7	5	3	1	–

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork (Sections 133 and 134)

NATURE OF WORK	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 133 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Assembly and Packing: Plastic Hair Curlers Incontinent Pads Packing: Hair Grips Hair Setting Tissue Cards Greetings Cards Assembly: Calendars Filling Tins with Adhesive	Approximately 130 (one set of premises)	–	–	–	–	–
Wearing Apparel: Altering	1	–	–	–	–	–
TOTAL	131	–	–	–	–	–

HOUSING

Building Progress During 1971

Houses erected by Local Authority	41	224
Houses erected by Private Enterprise	183	

Housing Statistics

1. **Inspections of Dwelling Houses during the Year**

Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	221
Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	150
Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	15

2. **Remedy of Defects during the Year without Services of Formal Notices**

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their offices	10

3. **Action under Statutory Powers during the Year**

Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	11
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a) By Owners	8
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	6

Seven 'individual unfit' dwellings, considered incapable of repair at reasonable expense, were made the subject of Closing Orders during the course of the year — one such Order being subsequently revoked when the house was made fit for human habitation.

Forty-two houses were represented to the Council as being unfit for human habitation in two Clearance Areas.

One hundred and forty-three dwellings contained within the Castlefields Redevelopment Area were confirmed by the Secretary of State for the Environment as being unfit for human habitation; all the dwellings being within the Shrewsbury (Castlefields No. 1) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1970, having been represented previously within five Clearance Areas.

MUNICIPAL HOSTEL FOR MEN

The management of a residential hostel for working men, such as Derfald Hostel, by a non-county borough must be becoming a rarity in England and it is with satisfaction that the following comments can be made.

The charges per week are £2.80 and 50p per night, although these are reviewed periodically in order that the Hostel should be practically self-supporting. No grant is asked for from either the Department of Health and Social Security or from the Salop County Council through their Social Services Department.

The high standard of maintenance leads to such comfort for the occupants that many men stay in the Hostel for years – at present, the longest stay being 28 years. The men have the use of cooking facilities, their own food store and the use of dining and reading rooms, and television at 5p per week. The Hostel is well heated and lit and cleansed, and clean sheets and pillowcases are supplied on arrival and thereafter at fortnightly intervals. There is one double cubicle and all the rest are single. As in the community in general the Hostel has an ageing population and a large proportion of the occupants are pensioners, but as the Hostel is for working men and staffed accordingly, they have to be independent, able to cook their own meals and look after themselves.

The men are usually asked to register with a local doctor if they are staying for more than a few days, and local doctors have dealt with most of the illness. During the year one elderly resident died in the Hostel after having lived there for 40 years and 7 men were admitted to hospital.

During 1971 an arrangement was made for some men who were long stay occupants in a local hospital, but who were fit to be in the community, to live in the Hostel and work in the hospital's sheltered workshop. This arrangement has been mutually satisfactory.

Although a bed has been available for one-night callers the number of such persons asking for accommodation has dropped very considerably, and a majority of the single night lettings have been, by previous arrangement, for ex-hospital patients or ex-prisoners.

The very occasional breaches of discipline have usually been dealt with by a request to leave the Hostel.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

At the close of the year there were registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations:

Dairies	6
Retail Purveyors of Milk	61

Tubidity Test (applicable to sterilised milk)

The eighteen samples proved satisfactory.

Phosphatase Test (a test applied to verify the efficiency of pasteurisation)

The forty-six samples proved satisfactory.

Methylene Blue Test

Seventy samples were subject to the Methylene Blue Test (an indicator of keeping quality), of which two were found to be unsatisfactory and three were declared void on test.

Colony Count Test (applicable to ultra-heat treated milk)

The one sample taken proved satisfactory.

Brucella Abortus

Number of samples of raw milk examined ...	18
Number of positive samples found	Nil

Ice Cream

Premises registered for sale and manufacture ...	1
Premises registered for sale only	195

Fifty samples of ice cream were taken for bacteriological examination. The results are tabulated below:

No. of Samples	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Void
50	38	11	1	–	–

Food and Drugs Sampling

The 81 samples of food and drugs submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis comprised 75 foods (8 formal and 67 informal) and 6 drugs (all informal).

Some 72 were returned as genuine and 9 (8 foods and 1 drug) as not genuine.

An additional 19 "informal" samples of milk were tested for fat content on the testing machine at the Health Centre. All were found to be satisfactory.

Remarks on Samples returned as Not Genuine

1. Sausage (Pork) – Formal

This was a sample of pork sausage deficient in total meat to the extent of 7.5%, containing undeclared sulphur dioxide preservative and having the parts as follows – Total Meat 60.1%, Sulphur Dioxide 200 parts per million. Regulation 5(b) of the Sausage and Other Meat Products Regulations 1967, requires an article described as "Pork Sausage" to contain 65% of total meat. The Preservatives in Food Regulations, 1962, permit the use of sulphur dioxide preservative in sausage, to the extent of not more than 450 parts per million only if its presence is declared. (The vendor was subsequently prosecuted and fined £15 with £11 costs.)

2. Sausage (Pork) — Informal

This was a sample of pork sausage deficient in total meat to the extent of 12.5% and having 56.9% total meat. (A formal sample was subsequently taken and proved satisfactory.)

3. Sausage (Pork) — Informal

This was a sample of pork sausage deficient in total meat to the extent of 5.4%, containing undeclared sulphur dioxide preservative and having the parts as follows — Total Meat 61.5%, Sulphur Dioxide 190 parts per million. (See 1 above)

4. Sausage (Pork) — Informal

This was a sample of pork sausage containing undeclared sulphur dioxide preservative and having the parts as follows — Total Meat 78.2%, Sulphur Dioxide 150 parts per million. (Vendor notified and notice subsequently displayed.)

5. Beefburgers — Informal

This was a sample of beefburgers being deficient in total meat to the extent of 7.6% and having 73.9% total meat and 51.3% defatted meat. (A subsequent sample proved satisfactory.)

6. Bread Roll — Informal

This was a consumer complaint of a sample of bread containing dark particles which, on analysis, were found to consist of charred dough. (No further action.)

7. Butter — Informal

This was a sample of butter which was found to contain "foreign" matter, i.e. iron rust. (Manufacturer subsequently prosecuted and find £20 with £5 costs.)

8. Mashed Potato (Calorie Reduced) — Informal

This was a sample of compound food incorrectly described as "mashed potato". The description was inappropriate for an article requiring reconstitution by the addition of water before consumption. (Informed by manufacturer that no further supplies of calorie reduced mashed potato would be distributed in its present form. All stocks withdrawn from sale by wholesalers.)

9. Zinc and Castor Oil Cream — Informal

This was a sample of Zinc and Castor Oil Cream of unsatisfactory appearance seriously deficient in zinc oxide and have the parts as follows — Zinc Oxide 1.2% (British Pharmacopoeia limits 7 to 8%). The cream was not homogeneous, separation of zinc oxide having occurred. (Informed by manufacturer that this product was not sold as conforming to B.P. standards and, by law, was not required to be sold as such. They stated that they had approached the appropriate bodies with regard to labelling. This matter is being pursued by the Public Analyst.)

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

	No. of Premises	No. fitted to comply with Regulation 16	No. to which Regulation 19 applies	No. fitted to comply with Regulation 19
Bakehouses	5	5	5	5
Butchers' Shops	29	28	29	28
Bread and Confectionery	10	10	10	10
Fish Frying Premises	14	14	14	14
Grocers	60	59	60	60
Greengrocers	15	15	15	15
Hospital Kitchens	7	7	7	7
Ice Cream Manufacturers	1	1	1	1
Licensed Premises	109	109	109	109
Restaurant Kitchens	43	43	43	41
School Canteens	32	32	32	32
Staff Canteens	17	17	17	17
Supermarkets	18	18	18	17
Sweet Confectionery	40	40	10	10
Warehouses	7	7	7	7
Wet Fish	6	6	6	6
Meat Processing	1	1	1	1
Poultry Processing	2	2	2	2

Regulation 16 refers to the provision of suitable and sufficient wash-hand basins, and adequate supply of hot and cold water, soap, nail-brushes and drying facilities for the use of all persons engaged in the handling of food.

Regulation 19 relates to the provision of suitable and sufficient sinks, or other facilities, for washing food and equipment. The appropriate water supply must be provided in each instance.

Poultry Inspection

Number of poultry processing premises within the district	2
Number of visits to these premises	32

Type of Birds Processed	Number Processed	Percentage Rejected as unfit for human consumption	Weight Condemned as unfit for human consumption
Turkeys	620	—	—
Ducks	94	—	—
Hens	278	0.7	4 lbs.
Broilers	4,586	1.8	189 lbs.
Geese	49	—	—
Guinea Fowl	66	—	—

The inspection of these premises is carried out under the provisions of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations. There is also a Code of Practice which outlines the structural requirements and hygienic standards recommended in this type of business. In addition, the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, applies to the examination of poultry.

Unsoundness in poultry was again found to be relatively small.

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963

Number of egg pasteurisation plants in district ... Nil

The following foodstuffs, being unfit for human consumption, were voluntarily surrendered for destruction:

Bacon and Ham	1,193	lbs.
Beef	673	lbs.
Black Pudding	20	lbs.
Celery	360	No.
Cheese	155	lbs.
Chicken	527½	lbs.
Duck	31¾	lbs.
Fish	68	lbs.
Lamb	250	lbs.
Marshmallows	14	pkts.
Lettuce	576	No.
Mushrooms	3	lbs.
Pizza Pies	36	No.
Pork	490	lbs.
Preserved Goods ...	8,742	tins, jars or packets
Rabbit	30	lbs.
Tomatoes	29	boxes
Turkey	513½	lbs.
Water Melons	6	No.

PUBLIC ABATTOIR

The throughput of the Abattoir continues to rise, as is shown in the table below, there being a big increase in the number of cattle and pigs slaughtered.

Year	Cattle and Calves (thousands)	Pigs (thousands)	Sheep and Lambs (thousands)
1967	19	34	91
1968	21	41	85
1969	24	44	76
1970	23	58	103
1971	31	66	96

The standards of dressing and of hygiene maintained at the Abattoir have been high enough to gain the approval of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, with the result that meat processed at the Abattoir can be exported to the European Economic Community under licence. As approximately 70% of the throughput goes to a firm who have the necessary refrigeration capacity to cool meat sufficiently rapidly to satisfy E.E.C. export conditions and to hold meat until required, all carcases coming from the Abattoir have to be up to the standards required for export. A further criterion of standards is that supplied by the main customers of this firm in the home market through their quality control.

The Abattoir and adjacent plant have a staff of approximately 300. Both the premises and the staff who work there have to be hygienic otherwise the product is liable to be dangerous to the health of the consumer, and more and more time is given to, and money spent on, the achievement and maintenance of very high standards.

During the year new washing points were installed for operators to use between the processing of individual animals on the line (pedal operated with disinfectant for equipment and warm water for hand washing, these being designed and produced by the Borough Surveyor). Also, more washing of carcases by warm water has meant new equipment, and more floor washing equipment has also been installed.

Some orders for cattle for the United States Armed Forces were dealt with, and the staff benefitted from the advice of the supervising U.S. Forces Veterinary Surgeon who insisted on a very high standard of hygiene and dressing. This caused considerable upheaval and some expense, but the finished product was up to his high standard.

Other users of the Abattoir are in a position to export meat under licence to E.E.C. countries if they can provide the necessary refrigeration capacity.

Private traders are entitled to the services provided by a Public Abattoir and, although the traditional butcher or grazier killing for sale in his own shop is less frequently a customer at the Abattoir, the private sector puts through some 8% of the total throughput.

It is unfortunate that the accounts of the Abattoir show a financial loss each year, and it was thought that a steadier throughput throughout the year would enable the Abattoir to make a small profit. However, new equipment and the measures mentioned above to increase the quality of the finished product have kept costs up and the Abattoir which provides a service and which is the responsibility of the local authority, still shows a negative financial balance. However, it should be mentioned that the rates collected from the Abattoir and its ancillaries outweigh this loss.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

(Figures in brackets are for 1970)

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	30,514 (21,803)	704 (1,024)	96,153 (102,908)	66,461 (58,095)	– (–)
Number inspected	30,514 (21,803)	704 (1,024)	96,153 (102,908)	66,461 (58,095)	– (–)
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:					
Whole carcases condemned	7 (5)	44 (55)	37 (58)	131 (73)	– (–)
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	7,656 (4,591)	50 (56)	3,368 (3,447)	7,018 (4,806)	– (–)
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis	25.09% (21.0%)	7.10% (5.5%)	3.50% (3.3%)	10.56% (8.3%)	– (–)
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcases condemned	– (–)	– (–)	– (–)	1 (1)	– (–)
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	– (–)	– (–)	– (–)	201 (231)	– (–)
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	– (–)	– (–)	– (–)	0.39% (0.71%)	– (–)
Cysticerosis:					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	67 (93)	– (–)	– (–)	– (–)	– (–)
Carcases submitted for treatment by refrigeration	22 (43)	– (–)	– (–)	– (–)	– (–)
Generalised and totally condemned	– (–)	– (–)	– (–)	– (–)	– (–)

Diseased and unsound conditions found in the animals dealt with caused the detention and surrender for destruction of a total weight in carcase meat and offal of 107 tons. 5 cwts. 41 lbs., details as follows:

Carcase Meat	17 tons. 9 cwts. 40 lbs.
Offal	89 tons. 16 cwts. 1 lb.

Unsound Food

The following foodstuffs, being unfit for human consumption, were voluntarily surrendered for destruction.

Cured Bacon	99 lbs.
Frozen Shoulder of Lamb ...	60 lbs.
Frozen Lambs Liver ...	30 lbs.
Frozen Turkey	8½ lbs.
Tinned Corned Beef ...	6 lbs.

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